REMARKS

The present application was filed on December 8, 2000 with claims 1-17. Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings on the ground that the drawings allegedly fail to show a flag generation circuit as claimed. Applicant respectfully traverses. An illustrative example of a flag generation circuit of the type claimed is clearly shown in FIG. 2 of the drawings, and is described in detail in the corresponding text at page 5, line 20 to page 7, line 14 of the specification. The objection to the drawings is therefore believed to be improper and should be withdrawn.

Applicant has amended the specification to update related application information, in accordance with the request of the Examiner.

Claims 1-4, 9, 10, 12 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,257,218 (hereinafter "Poon"). Claims 11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Poon. Claims 5-8 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicant respectfully traverses the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections.

With regard to the §102(b) rejection, Applicant notes that the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Eight Edition, August 2001, §2131, specifies that a given claim is anticipated "only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference," citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Moreover, MPEP §2131 indicates that the cited reference must show the "identical invention . . . in as complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim," citing Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

For the reasons identified below, Applicant submits that the Examiner has failed to establish anticipation of at least independent claims 1, 16 and 17 by the Poon reference.

The present invention as set forth in claim 1 as originally filed is directed to an adder having a plurality of computational stages each associated with one or more bit positions of the adder, with the plurality of computational stages including one or more computational stages for generating a sum output signal and a primary carry-output signal of the adder. The adder further includes a flag generation circuit coupled to at least one signal line of at least one of the computational stages and operative to generate an overflow flag for the adder, the overflow flag being generated substantially in parallel with the generation of at least one of the sum output signal and the primary carry-output signal of the adder.

An illustrative embodiment of the claimed arrangement advantageously provides a substantial reduction in the computational delay associated with generation of an overflow flag, "without requiring any significant increase in the transistor count or circuit area of the adder, and thus without increasing adder cost or complexity" (Specification, page 7, lines 3-10).

It is believed that the Poon reference fails to meet the limitations of independent claim 1 as originally filed, and fails to provide the associated advantages.

In formulating the §102(b) rejection, the Examiner relies on the disclosure in column 13, lines 9-12 of Poon, which states that a primary carry-output signal C_{N-1} of the FIG. 13 adder is available at the output of the adder as "an overflow bit" utilizable for "extending the number of bits in the operands A and B." The Examiner thus apparently argues that the primary carry-output signal C_{N-1} in the Poon adder reads on the overflow flag as claimed. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Use of the primary carry-output signal itself as an overflow bit in the manner disclosed in Poon fails to meet the above-recited limitations of claim 1.

Independent claims 16 and 17 include limitations similar to those of claim 1, and are believed allowable for substantially the same reasons identified above with regard to claim 1.

Dependent claims 2-4 and 9-15 are believed allowable for at least the reasons identified above with regard to claim 1. Moreover, certain of these claims are believed to define additional separately-patentable subject matter over Poon and the other art of record.

The §102(b) and §103(a) rejections are therefore respectfully traversed.

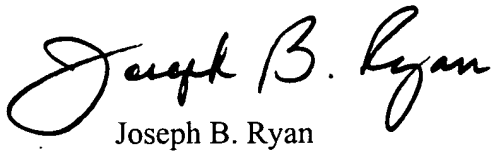
Notwithstanding the foregoing traversal, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 16 and 17 to clarify that the overflow flag is separate and distinct from the primary carry-output signal.

Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 3-15. In view of the traversal, Applicant submits that the amendments to claims 1, 16 and 17 are not made for reasons relating to patentability over Poon or any other art of record, but instead are made solely in order to expedite prosecution of the application.

Dependent claims 5, 6 and 7 have been rewritten in independent form. These claims are believed allowable based on the indication of allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 1-17 as amended are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the withdrawal of the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: January 20, 2004

Joseph B. Ryan
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 37,922
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP
90 Forest Avenue
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 759-7517

EXECUTION COPY

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

by and between

LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.

and

AGERE SYSTEMS GUARDIAN CORP.

Dated as of January 30, 2001

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

THIS PATENT ASSIGNMENT (this "Assignment"), effective as of January 30, 2001 (the "Effective Date"), is by and between Lucent Technologies Inc., a Delaware corporation, with offices at 600 Mountain Avenue, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974, United States of America, ("ASSIGNOR") and Agere Systems Guardian Corp., a Delaware corporation, with offices at 555 Union Boulevard, Allentown, PA 18109, United States of America ("Agere Systems Guardian").

RECITALS

A. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of ASSIGNOR has determined that it is in the best interests of ASSIGNOR and its stockholders to separate ASSIGNOR's existing businesses into two independent businesses;

B. WHEREAS, ASSIGNOR presently owns or controls certain patents, patent applications, and invention submissions listed in the attached Appendices A and B (hereinafter "TRANSFERRED PATENTS") and;

C. WHEREAS, in furtherance of the foregoing separation, ASSIGNOR desires to transfer, assign, convey, deliver and vest all of its interests and rights in TRANSFERRED PATENTS for all countries, jurisdictions and political entities of the world, to and in Agere Systems Guardian;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and for other good and valid consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

ASSIGNOR, subject to existing rights and licenses of third parties, does hereby assign, convey, transfer and deliver, and agrees to assign, convey, transfer and deliver to Agere Systems Guardian, its successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees, ASSIGNOR's entire right, title and interest, for all countries, jurisdictions and political entities of the world, along with the right to sue for past infringement, to all TRANSFERRED PATENTS listed on Appendices A and B, and corresponding counterpart foreign patents and patent applications, with respect to which, and to the extent to which, ASSIGNOR now has or hereafter acquires the right to so assign, convey, transfer and deliver. Agere Systems Guardian recognizes that ASSIGNOR holds only bare legal title to the TRANSFERRED PATENTS listed in Appendix A (which lists the United States Patents and patent applications previously exclusively licensed to Lucent Technologies Microelectronics Guardian Corp.).

ASSIGNOR and ASSIGNEE recognize that the patents listed in Appendices A and B may inadvertently include patents that are owned by various subsidiaries of ASSIGNOR, including Agere, Inc., Ortel Corporation, Optimay Corporation, Herrmann Technology, Inc., and Enable Semiconductor, Inc. Ownership of such patents shall not be affected by this Patent

Assignment, and ASSIGNEE agrees that any such patents shall be deemed deleted from Appendices A and B.

ASSIGNOR agrees that, upon request it will, at any time without charge to Agere Systems Guardian, but at Agere Systems Guardian's expense, furnish all necessary documentation relating to or supporting chain of title, sign all papers, take all rightful oaths, and do all acts which may be necessary, desirable or convenient for vesting title to TRANSFERRED PATENTS in Agere Systems Guardian, its successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees; including but not limited to any acts which may be necessary, desirable or convenient for claiming said rights and for securing and maintaining patents for said inventions in any and all countries and for vesting title thereto in Agere Systems Guardian and its respective successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this PATENT ASSIGNMENT to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as of the Effective Date.

LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.

By: _____
Daniel P. McCurdy
President, Intellectual Property Business

AGERE SYSTEMS GUARDIAN CORP.

By: _____
Fred M. Romano
President

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
: ss:
COUNTY OF SOMERSET)

I CERTIFY that on January 30, 2001, Daniel P. McCurdy personally came before me and this person acknowledged under oath, to my satisfaction that:

a.) this person signed, sealed and delivered the attached Patent Assignment as President - Intellectual Property Business of Lucent Technologies Inc.; and

b.) this Patent Assignment was signed and made by Lucent Technologies Inc. as its voluntary act and deed by virtue of authority from its Board of Directors.

Name
Notary Public
My Commission Expires:
[Notarial Seal]

TAMORA ANNE HANNA
Notary Public of New Jersey
Registered in Hunterdon County
My Commission Expires March 25, 20

STATE OF FLORIDA)
: ss:
COUNTY OF ORANGE)

I CERTIFY that on January 31, 2001, Fred M. Romano personally came before me and this person acknowledged under oath, to my satisfaction that:

a.) this person signed, sealed and delivered the attached Patent Assignment as Vice President of Agere Systems Guardian Corp. ; and

b.) this Patent Assignment was signed and made by Agere Systems Guardian Corp. as its voluntary act and deed by virtue of authority from its Board of Directors.

Name
Notary Public
My Commission Expires:
[Notarial Seal]

MARY V CARTER
MY COMMISSION # CC 969433
EXPIRES: Sep 20, 2004
1-800-3-NOTARY FL Notary Service & Bonding, Inc.

APPENDIX B (continued)
Transferred Patents (patent disclosures)

IDS No.	Inventors	Subject Matter
	Zierdt,BL01131J0	
Fetter 12-13	Fetter, Linus Albert ,BL0111130,Lenz, Gadi ,BL0111160,	High Resolution Ablation Of Thin Films
Fischer 34-46	Fischer, Jonathan Herman ,5388CR200,Laturell, Donald Raymond ,5388CR200,	High Output Power Digital to Analog Converter
Fischer 35-47-14	Jonathan H Fischer,5388CR200;Donald R Laturell,5388CR200;Vladimir Sindalovsky,5388CR200	Adaptive Interference Cancellation For ADSL
Fredrickson 1	Fredrickson, Lisa ,OUTSIDE,	Improved Multi-Rate Reed Solomon Encoders
Frei 8-17-62-7-17	Frei, Michel Ranjit ,BL0111240,King, Clifford Alan ,BL0111240,Ma, Yi ,538113000,Mastrapasqua, Marco ,BL0111240,Ng, Kwok K ,BL0111240,	Heterojunction Bipolar Transistor
Fuehrer 3-48-26-2	Timothy W Fuehrer,5388CR200;Donald R Laturell,5388CR200;Lane A Smith,5388CR200;Christopher J Wittensoldner,5388CR300	Inductive Coupling For Silicon Data Access Arrangement
Glebov 3-50-23	Alexei Glebov,BL0111240;Isik C Kizilyalli,5381C1000;Ranbir Singh,5381C4000	Porous-Si for ILD Using A Damascene Process
Goldovsky 9	Alexander Goldovsky,538843000	Fast Overflow Flag Generation for Addition Operation
Goodwin 4-4-2	Charles A Goodwin,55K095500;Daniel D Leffel,55K095100;William R Lewis,50N032000	Nitride Layer In Dielectrically Isolated Subtrates
Hakami 1	Mohammad R Hakami,538841000	Hierarchical Carry-Select Multiple-Input Split Adder
Harris 9	Edward B Harris,5381C8000	Method Of Etching Self-Aligned Vias To Metal Using A Silicon Nitride Spacer
Havens 12-7-4	Joseph H Havens,538710000;Bruce W McNeill,571000000;Christopher J Strobel,50M333300	Tracking Percent Overload Signal As Indicator of Output Signal Magnitude
Higashi 13	Gregg S Higashi,538113000	#N/A
Higashi 14	Gregg S Higashi,538113000	System and Method For Removal Of Material
Hossain 2	Hossain, Ashfaq ,BL0314400,	Balancing Load On Internet Servers Using Fuzzy Logic-Based Decisions
Houge 15-20-12-26-19	Houge, Erik Cho ,55K11J000,McIntosh, John Martin ,538116000,Plew, Larry E. ,55K11J000,Stevie, Fred Anthony ,55K11J000,Vartuli, Catherine ,55K11J100,	Discerning Two Overlapping Kikuchi Band Formation Patterns In Electron Backscatter Diffraction Pattern Analysis
Houge 17	Erik C Houge,55K11J000	Optical Structures And Methods For X-Ray
Houge 6-15-16-1-11	Houge, Erik Cho ,55K11J000,McIntosh, John Martin ,538116000,Stevie, Fred Anthony ,55K11J000,Vallee, Steven Barry ,55k11j100,Vartuli, Catherine ,55K11J100,	Mass Spectrometer Particle Counter
Huggins 6	Harold A Huggins,BL01131F0	Method Of Fabricating Thin Film R.F. Components On Membranes
Jin 202-59	Jin, Sungho ,BL0111750,Zhu, Wei ,BL0111750,	Process For Controlled Growth Of Carbon Nanotubes

STATE OF DELAWARE
SECRETARY OF STATE
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS
FILED 09:00 AM 08/29/2002
020545223 - 3268412

CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND MERGER

OF

Agere Systems Guardian Corp.
(a Delaware corporation)

INTO

Agere Systems Inc.
(a Delaware corporation)

UNDER SECTION 253 OF THE GENERAL CORPORATION LAW OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

Agere Systems Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware ("Corporation"), **DOES HEREBY CERTIFY:**

FIRST: The Corporation is the owner of all of the outstanding shares of common stock of Agere Systems Guardian Corp., which is also a business corporation of the State of Delaware.

SECOND: On August 22, 2002 the Subsidiary Governance Committee of the Board of Directors of the Corporation adopted the following resolution to merge Agere Systems Guardian Corp. into the Corporation:

> **RESOLVED** that Agere Systems Guardian Corp., a Delaware corporation, shall be merged with and into Agere Systems Inc., a Delaware corporation, with Agere Systems Inc. being the surviving corporation, and Agere Systems Inc. shall thereupon assume all of the obligations of Agere Systems Guardian Corp."

THIRD: That the merger authorized hereby shall become effective as of 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on August 31, 2002.

Executed on August 22, 2002

AGERE SYSTEMS INC.

By Paul Bento
Paul Bento, Vice President

Delaware

The First State

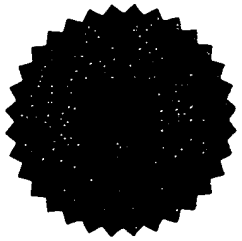
I, HARRIET SMITH WINDSOR, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ATTACHED IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP, WHICH MERGES:

"AGERE SYSTEMS GUARDIAN CORP.", A DELAWARE CORPORATION,

WITH AND INTO "AGERE SYSTEMS INC." UNDER THE NAME OF "AGERE SYSTEMS INC.", A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, AS RECEIVED AND FILED IN THIS OFFICE THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 2002, AT 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

AND I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AFORESAID CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP IS THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 2002.

A FILED COPY OF THIS CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS.



Harriet Smith Windsor

Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State

3268412 8100M

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AUTHENTICATION: 1959517

DATE: 08-29-02